

REMARKS

The Office Action of April 5, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully noted. Claims 1-3, 6-11, and 24-36 are pending in the application. In this Amendment, claim 24 has been canceled; claims 11, 25, 28, and 31-36 have been amended; and new claim 37 has been added without the addition of any new matter.

The Claims Are Not Anticipated by the Article

Claim 1-3, 6-11 and 24-36 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by (U.S. Patent No. 6,055,340). The et al. reference (hereinafter, "") cited in the International Search Report and cited in an information disclosure state relates to an article entitled, "Reliable Classification of Chrysanthemum Leaves through curvature scale space" and not to U.S. Patent 6,055,340 which issued in the name of Nagao. It is clear that page 3, section 5, of the Office Action is referring to the article and not the Nagao '340 patent. Accordingly, this reply is based upon the disclosure of the article and not the Nagao patent.

Abbassi refers to the use of eccentricity of an object outline in connection with matching using a CSS representation. However, this is the eccentricity of the original outline of the object. It is respectfully submitted that is cumulative of the prior art described on page 3 of the present application which also relates to the eccentricity of the original outline. discloses that in order to create the CSS representation, the original outlined is smoothed in a plurality of stages. (See page 288).

Section 5 of refers to the "eccentricity, circularity and aspect ratio of the CSS image" (page 290). It is respectfully submitted that the CSS image is not a smoothed

version of the object outline. The CSS image is a plot of the locations of the curvature zero crossings of each smoothed object outline (See the right hand side of Fig. 3 on page 290, and the last paragraph of page 288). Moreover, only the aspect ratio relates to the CSS image. Eccentricity of the CSS image is meaningless. Eccentricity and circularity mentioned in Section 5 of refer to the original object outline. Additional references include Section 1 and the headings in Section 5 labeled "Eccentricity", "Circularity" and "Aspect ratio of the CSS image" [emphasis added].

All the independent claims (1, 10, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36) however, include deriving the CSS of the object outline and deriving at least one additional parameter reflecting the shape or mass distribution of a smoothed version of the original curve or outline, and the at least one additional parameter corresponds to the eccentricity of the outline. The invention of claim 2, for example, uses the eccentricity of a smoothed version which may be the final smoothed version.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, 6-11 and 24-36 are not anticipated by , because does not disclose deriving one additional parameter reflecting the shape or mass distribution of a smoothed version of the original curve or outline and the eccentricity of the outline. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of the claims.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks submitted above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the remaining claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 to discuss the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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